



## Bedford Recreation Department

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### **Tim Gartland** **Harmonica Teacher and Author**

Tim Gartland began playing harmonica at the age of 13. In addition to the guidance and nurturing he received from his musical family, Tim studied with harmonica greats Rod Piazza, Cary Bell and Jerry Portnoy. He also completed courses in music while obtaining his bachelor's degree from Kent State University in Ohio. In addition to harmonica, Tim is a singer, songwriter and guitarist. Tim began playing in bands at 16. He played professionally in Cleveland, Chicago, Kansas City and Boston. He has performed with legends such as Bo Diddley, Carey Bell and Muddy Waters' long time group the Legendary Blues Band. An expert blues player, he is also accomplished in the folk, rock and country styles. Currently Tim is regarded as one of the finest harmonica players in New England. Here are some quotes about Tim's harmonica playing:

"Gartland exploits this groove tearing off a low down harp solo that's a real beauty"

- Phillip Van Vleck; Blues Review Magazine

"Walk That Walk (former band) specializes in the high-energy Chicago Blues, driven by the rampaging harp of Tim Gartland"

- Kevin R. Conley; Boston Globe

A lifetime student of the instrument, he has dedicated the last three years to writing and producing the training guide/CD "The Talking Harmonica" as a way of helping others learn this surprisingly sophisticated instrument. While Tim has been actively performing for over 30 years, his "day gig" for 23 years was as an award winning manager and trainer with a Fortune 500 company. Tim utilized this experience by applying the latest techniques in corporate training to teaching the harmonica. The result is a book of tried and true harmonica teaching techniques presented in a unique, efficient results driven training

package. For more information on the training guide please visit  
[www.talkingharmonica.com](http://www.talkingharmonica.com).

Tim retired from his corporate career in 2008 to become a fulltime musician,  
songwriter, teacher and author.

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